

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) A suction inlet unit comprising:
a suction inlet main body having a bottom suction inlet,
a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom
suction inlet in ~~the~~ a front portion of said suction inlet main
body, and

an adjusting mechanism for moving at least ~~one~~ a first part
of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
change an opening area of said front suction inlet,

wherein [[::]] said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to~~
decrease decreases the opening area of said front suction inlet
when ~~it~~ the first part of the wall section is contacted with and
pushed by ~~a wall or furniture~~ an obstruction; and

wherein the adjusting mechanism does not move at least a
second part of the wall section, the second part comprising a
non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

14. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 13, ~~wherein:~~

wherein the at least one first part of the wall section
forming said front suction inlet includes a cover ~~disposed to~~
5 ~~cover one which covers at least a part of the front suction inlet~~

~~an opening inlet formed in the front of said suction inlet main body, and~~

10 ~~wherein~~ said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to be capable of adjusting~~ ~~adjusts~~ the opening area of said front suction inlet by moving said cover to ~~any a~~ position ~~of between~~ a wide opening area ~~position or to any position of and~~ a narrow opening area ~~position.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein ~~when~~ said cover ~~having has~~ an upper end portion attached to said suction inlet main body ~~with and~~ a lower end portion which is rotatable, ~~and when said cover~~ is contacted with and pushed by the ~~wall or furniture~~ obstruction, the lower end portion is rotated to narrow the opening area of said front suction inlet.

16. (Currently Amended) A suction inlet unit comprising:
a suction inlet main body having a suction chamber with a bottom suction inlet,

5 a rotary cleaning body provided ~~rotating~~ rotatably in said suction chamber and having a cleaning member,

a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom suction inlet in ~~the~~ front of said suction inlet main body, and

an adjusting mechanism for adjusting at least ~~one a first~~
part of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
10 ~~make one control a forward protrusion, through said front suction~~
~~inlet, of at least a part of said rotary cleaning member protrude~~
~~forwards or not protrude forwards through said front suction~~
~~inlet,~~

wherein [:] when said adjusting mechanism is contacted
15 with and pushed by ~~a wall or furniture~~ ~~an obstruction, one an~~
~~opening area of the front suction inlet decreases and said part~~
~~of said rotary cleaning member cleaning body protrudes forwards~~
~~forward~~ through said front suction inlet, and

wherein the adjusting mechanism does not adjust at least a
second part of the wall section, the second part comprising a
non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

17. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 16, wherein the cleaning member of said rotary cleaning
body ~~is configured to rotate~~ rotates from a front to a back
position to clean a cleaning surface.

18. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 16, wherein said rotary cleaning body includes a pivot
section and a plurality of cleaning members with different

lengths are provided along a circular direction around the pivot
5 section with spacing, and

wherein longer cleaning members are configured to be more
flexible than shorter cleaning members.

19. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 16, wherein [:] the ~~at least one~~ first part of the wall
section forming said front suction inlet includes a cover
~~disposed to cover one which covers at least a part of the front~~
5 ~~suction inlet~~ ~~an opening inlet forming in the front of said~~
~~suction inlet main body~~, and

~~wherein~~ said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to be capable~~
~~of adjusting~~ adjusts the opening area of said front suction inlet
by moving said cover to ~~any~~ a position ~~of~~ between a wide opening
10 area position and a or ~~to any position of~~ narrow opening area
position.

20. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 17 19, wherein ~~when~~ said cover ~~having~~ has an upper end
portion attached to said suction inlet main body ~~with~~ and a lower
end portion which is rotatable, ~~and when said cover~~ is contacted
5 with and pushed by the ~~wall or furniture~~ obstruction, the lower
end portion is rotated for protruding ~~at least one~~ said part of
the said cleaning member ahead of said front suction inlet.

21. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim 17 19, wherein said cover is made from soft resin materials.

22. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim 18 20, wherein said cover is made from soft resin materials.

23. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim 17 19, wherein convex and concave portions are disposed on a surface of said cover.

24. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim 18 20, wherein convex and concave portions are disposed on a surface of said cover.

25. (Currently Amended) A suction inlet unit comprising:
a suction inlet main body including a suction chamber having a bottom suction inlet and a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom suction inlet,
5 a rotary cleaning body provided ~~rotating~~ rotatably in said suction chamber and having a cleaning member, and

an adjusting mechanism for adjusting an opening area size of said front suction inlet,

wherein [[:]] said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to~~
10 ~~adjust decreases~~ the opening area of said front suction inlet so that at least ~~one~~ a part of the cleaning member of said rotary cleaning body ~~protrude~~ protrudes ahead of said suction inlet main body through said front suction inlet when a front portion of said suction inlet main body is contacted with and pushed by a
15 ~~wall or furniture~~ an obstruction; and

wherein, when adjusting the opening area, the adjusting mechanism does not adjust at least an end part of a wall section forming said front suction inlet, the end part being provided at the front portion of said suction inlet main body and comprising
20 a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

26. (Currently Amended) An electric vacuum cleaner [,:] comprising:

5 a vacuum cleaner main body having a dust collecting chamber;
a suction inlet unit; and
a connector which detachably connects the vacuum cleaner main body to the suction inlet unit;
wherein the suction inlet unit ~~set forth in claim 13~~
comprises:

10 a suction inlet main body having a bottom suction inlet,

a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom suction inlet in a front portion of said suction inlet main body, and

an adjusting mechanism for moving at least a first part

15 of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to change an opening area of said front suction inlet,

wherein said adjusting mechanism decreases the opening area of said front suction inlet when the first part of the wall section is contacted with and pushed by an obstruction, and

20 wherein the adjusting mechanism does not move at least a second part of the wall section, the second part comprising a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

27. (Currently Amended) An electric vacuum cleaner [,] comprising:

a vacuum cleaner main body having a dust collecting chamber;

a suction inlet unit; and

5 a connector which detachably connects the vacuum cleaner main body to the suction inlet unit;

wherein the suction inlet unit set forth in claim 16 comprises:

10 a suction inlet main body having a suction chamber with
a bottom suction inlet,
a rotary cleaning body provided rotatably in said
suction chamber and having a cleaning member,
a front suction inlet formed continuously with said
bottom suction inlet in front of said suction inlet main body,
15 and
an adjusting mechanism for adjusting at least a first
part of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
control a forward protrusion, through said front suction inlet,
of at least a part of said rotary cleaning member,
20 wherein when said adjusting mechanism is contacted with
and pushed by an obstruction, an opening area of the front
suction inlet decreases and said part of said rotary cleaning
member protrudes forward through said front suction inlet, and
wherein the adjusting mechanism does not adjust at
25 least a second part of the wall section, the second part
comprising a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

28. (Currently Amended) An electric vacuum cleaner [,] comprising:

a vacuum cleaner main body having a dust collecting chamber;
a suction inlet unit; and

5 a connector which detachably connects the vacuum cleaner main body to a suction inlet unit;
wherein the suction inlet unit set forth in claim 25 comprises:

10 a suction inlet main body including a suction chamber having a bottom suction inlet and a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom suction inlet,
a rotary cleaning body provided rotatably in said suction chamber and having a cleaning member, and
an adjusting mechanism for adjusting an opening area
15 size of said front suction inlet,

20 wherein said adjusting mechanism decreases the opening area of said front suction inlet so that at least a part of the cleaning member of said rotary cleaning body protrudes ahead of said suction inlet main body through said front suction inlet when a front portion of said suction inlet main body is contacted with and pushed by an obstruction, and

25 wherein, when adjusting the opening area, the adjusting mechanism does not adjust at least an end part of a wall section forming said front suction inlet, the end part being provided at the front portion of said suction inlet main body and comprising a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.